

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

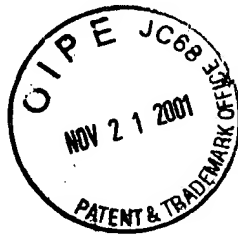
In re Applicant:

PAUL L. POOL
WILLIAM H. GOWAN

Filed: March 26, 1998

Serial No. 09/517,383

For: PROTECTION OF PIPELINE
JOINT CONNECTIONS



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Art Unit: 3627

Examiner: Teri Pham Luu

Attorney Docket No.: 85356.0011

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT OF 11/21/01

A copy of the claims in their present form as a result of this Preliminary Amendment is as follows:

1 ~~17.~~ A cover for attachment at positions protecting exposed pipeline joint sections on
2 weight coated offshore underwater pipelines comprising:
3 a pliable cover material for attachment at positions overlapping adjacent end
4 portions of the weight coat, completely enclosing the exposed pipe joint section, and sealed in
5 place forming an annular space around the pipe;
6 said cover material comprising a sheet of material wrapped in a cylindrical shape
7 and having overlapping side edges sealed together to form said annular space;
8 said annular space between the exposed pipeline and the cover material filled with
9 a joint filling material of a high density open celled polyurethane foam, formed by reacting
10 polyurethane chemicals inside the cover material; and
11 said cover material including an opening formed in the sheet for injecting the joint
12 filling material into the annular space and allow entry of moisture into the polyurethane foam.

1 19. The cover of claim 17 wherein the pliable cover material is formed from
2 polyethylene.

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